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Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method of preparing an imaged composite, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) applying a layer of a gel coat composition comprising unsaturated polyester resin, styrene monomer and methyl methacrylate to at least one surface of a substrate comprising a composite material;
- (b) curing the gel coat composition; and
- (c) transferring a sublimatable dye to the cured gel coat to obtain the imaged composite.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the gel coat composition comprises one or more crosslinkable components.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the one or more crosslinkable components cross-link with the composite material or with each other during curing.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the curing step is conducted at a temperature in the range of about 50° F.-750° F.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the gel coat optionally comprises a catalyst that accelerates curing of the gel coat composition.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the gel coat composition is pigmented or unpigmented.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of the cured gel coat is in the range of about 1 mil to about 100 mil.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the thickness of the cured gel coat is in the range of about 10 mil to about 25 mil.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the gel coat is thermally-cured or cured by radiation.
13. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the composite material comprises a filler and a matrix.
14. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the filler comprises a material selected from the group consisting of fibers, particulates, fabrics and mixtures thereof.
15. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the matrix comprises [[of]] a material selected from the group consisting of canvas, ceramic, cement, glass, metal, plastic, and wood.
16. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the matrix comprises a polymeric resin matrix.
17. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the polymeric resin matrix comprises a thermoset or thermoplastic resin.
18. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the polyester resin matrix is reinforced with glass fiber.
19. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the composite comprises a gypsum cement or synthetic marble.
20. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of applying a top coat onto the imaged composite.
21. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein the top coat is transparent or translucent.
22. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein the thickness of the top coat is in the range of about 0.1 mils to 10 mils.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein the top coat comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a polyester, epoxy, conversion lacquer, waterborne, nitrocellulose, urethane, acrylic, paint, shellac, varnish, enamel, synthetic penetrating oil, nitrocellulose transparent lacquer, acrylic transparent lacquer, acrylic transparent latex, post-catalyzed conversion varnish, polyester, and polyurethane.
24. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein the step of applying a top coat is repeated.
25. (Withdrawn) An article prepared according to any one of claims 1-24.